In the Claims:

Claims **1 to 16** (canceled).

17. (previously presented) An electric connector for electrically connecting a first article and a second article with each other, wherein the first article includes an electric wire and the second article includes a conductive part, said electric connector comprising:

a housing, which is fitted onto at least one selected one of the articles, and

a crimping contact, which is provided in a cavity in the housing and has a crimpable connecting part to be connected to the electric wire of the first article within the cavity of the housing and a contacting part protruding out of the cavity to be made to contact, with a pressing force, the conductive part of the second article, wherein the crimpable connecting part includes a crimpable wire barrel to be crimped onto an electrical conductor core of the electric wire and a crimpable insulation barrel to be crimped onto an insulation jacket of the electric wire.

18. (previously presented) The electric connector as recited in claim 17, wherein the housing has such a configuration that the housing can be fitted into a recessed part in the selected one of the articles, and the housing is fitted onto the selected one of the articles by being fitted into the recessed part.

19. (previously presented) The electric connector as recited in claim 18, wherein the housing is provided with a wing, which is elastically deformed to press a longitudinal wall of the recessed part when the housing is inserted into the recessed part, and the housing is fitted onto the selected one of the articles by a pressure exerted by the wing.

20. (currently amended) ~~An~~ The electric connector as recited in claim 19, wherein the housing is further provided with a locking pawl, and the housing is fitted onto one of the articles other than the selected one of the articles by fitting the locking pawl onto the one of the articles other than the selected one of the articles.

21. (currently amended) ~~An~~ The electric connector as recited in claim 18, wherein the housing is provided with a locking pawl, and the housing is fitted onto one of the articles other than the selected one of the articles by fitting the locking pawl onto the one of the articles other than the selected one of the articles.

22. (currently amended) ~~An~~ The electric connector as recited in claim 17, wherein the housing has such a configuration that the housing can be fitted into a recessed part formed in the selected one of the articles, the housing is provided with a wing, which is elastically deformed to press a longitudinal wall of the recessed part when the housing is

inserted into the recessed part, and the housing is fitted onto the selected one of the articles by a pressure exerted by the wing.

23. (currently amended) ~~An~~ The electric connector as recited in claim 22, wherein the housing is further provided with a locking pawl, and the housing is fitted onto one of the articles other than the selected one of the articles by fitting the locking pawl onto the one of the articles other than the selected one of the articles.

24. (currently amended) ~~An~~ The electric connector as recited in claim 17, wherein the housing is provided with a locking pawl, and the housing is fitted onto the selected one of the articles by fitting the locking pawl onto the selected one of the articles.

25. (currently amended) ~~An electrical~~ The electric connector ~~comprising:~~ as recited in claim 17, wherein:

the housing is an electrically insulating housing; ~~having a cavity therein; and~~

~~an electrically conductive contact member including a wire connecting part that is situated in said cavity and that is configured and adapted to be connected to a wire, and a contacting part that is exposed out of said cavity and that is configured and adapted to be pressingly contacted against an electrical contact;~~

~~wherein said~~ the housing includes a block-shaped body and two elastically deflectable wings protruding laterally outwardly in respective opposite directions from two opposite side surfaces of ~~said~~ the block-shaped body; and

~~wherein said~~ the wings are configured and adapted to selectively take up two positions including a first position in which ~~said~~ the wings are unstressed and protrude respectively laterally outwardly in ~~said~~ the respective opposite directions from ~~said~~ the two opposite side surfaces of ~~said~~ the block-shaped body, and a second position in which ~~said~~ the wings are elastically deflected and stressed to extend respectively along and adjacent to ~~said~~ the two side surfaces of ~~said~~ the block-shaped body while exerting an elastic restoring force outwardly away from ~~said~~ the two opposite side surfaces in ~~said~~ the respective opposite directions.

26. (currently amended) ~~An electrical~~ The electric connector ~~comprising:~~ as recited in claim 17, wherein:

the housing is an electrically insulating housing~~; having a cavity therein; and~~

~~an electrically conductive contact member including a wire connecting part that is situated in said cavity and that is configured and adapted to be connected to a wire, and a contacting part that is exposed out of said cavity and that is configured and adapted to be pressingly contacted against an electrical contact;~~

~~wherein said~~ the housing includes a block-shaped body including a major surface having an opening through which ~~said~~ the contacting part protrudes in a contacting direction normal to ~~said~~ the major surface, two side surfaces respectively extending from opposite edges of ~~said~~ the major surface, and two locking pawls respectively extending along ~~said~~ the two side surfaces parallel to each other and to ~~said~~ the contacting direction and protruding away from ~~said~~ the block-shaped body parallel to ~~said~~ the contacting direction; and

~~wherein said~~ the locking pawls are each elastically deflectable in a direction toward and/or away from each other parallel to ~~said~~ the major surface.

27. (new) The electric connector as recited in claim 17, wherein the housing is an electrically insulating housing having the cavity therein and having plural housing outer sidewalls, with a fitting member provided on at least one of the sidewalls, wherein the fitting member is configured and adapted to fittingly engage the selected one of the first article or the second article so as to mechanically connect the electric connector to the selected one of the first article or the second article.

28. (new) The electric connector as recited in claim 27, wherein the fitting member has therein a fitting groove, which is configured and adapted to fittingly receive

therein a fitting protrusion of the selected one of the first article or the second article.

29. (new) The electric connector as recited in claim 28, wherein the fitting groove includes a tapered groove mouth at at least one end of the fitting groove, wherein the tapered groove mouth widens toward the at least one end.

30. (new) The electric connector as recited in claim 28, wherein the fitting member has two flat planar faces that are oriented facing outwardly away from the housing and that border on the fitting groove therebetween.

31. (new) A combination for establishing an electrical and mechanical interconnection, comprising:

a first article including a first article casing and a first conductive part being an electric wire;

a second article including a second article casing and a second conductive part; and

an electrical connector including an electrically insulating housing with a cavity therein, an electrically conductive contact member that is received at least partially in said cavity of said housing, and a connector-side mechanical fixing structure provided on said housing;

wherein said contact member includes a crimped wire terminal that is mechanically and electrically connected to said electric wire of said first article by being crimped

thereon, and a contacting part that is exposed from said housing and pressed against and electrically contacted with said second conductive part of said second article; and

wherein one of said first article casing and said second article casing has a first recess in said casing, said housing of said electrical connector is at least partially fitted into and received in said first recess, and said connector-side mechanical fixing structure mechanically engages with a portion of said one of said first article casing and said second article casing and thereby mechanically fixes said electrical connector thereto.

32. (new) The combination according to claim 31, wherein said portion of said one of said first article casing and said second article casing comprises a casing-side mechanical fixing structure in said recess, and said connector-side mechanical fixing structure is mechanically engaged with said casing-side mechanical fixing structure.

33. (new) The combination according to claim 32, wherein said connector-side mechanical fixing structure comprises a fitting groove, said casing-side mechanical fixing structure comprises a protrusion on a sidewall of said first recess, and said protrusion fittingly engages into said fitting groove when said electrical connector is at least partially fitted into and received in said first recess.

34. (new) The combination according to claim 32, wherein said connector-side mechanical fixing structure comprises a locking pawl protruding from said housing, said casing-side mechanical fixing structure comprises a catch rim, and said locking pawl engages onto said catch rim when said electrical connector is at least partially fitted into and received in said first recess.

35. (new) The combination according to claim 31, wherein said portion of said one of said first article casing and said second article casing comprises a sidewall of said first recess, said connector-side mechanical fixing structure comprises at least one elastically deflectable wing protruding laterally from said housing, and said elastically deflectable wing is elastically deflected and elastically urged to press and engage against said sidewall when said electrical connector is at least partially fitted into and received in said first recess.

36. (new) The combination according to claim 31, wherein said housing of said electrical connector is press-fitted and frictionally engaged into said first recess.

37. (new) The combination according to claim 31, wherein another of said first article casing and said second article casing not having said first recess has a second recess therein, and said housing of said electrical

connector is at least partially fitted into and received in said second recess.

38. (new) The combination according to claim 31, wherein said second conductive part of said second article is a circuit board contact pad, and said first article casing is said one of said casings that has said first recess therein.

39. (new) The combination according to claim 31, wherein said second conductive part of said second article is a circuit board contact pad, and said second article casing is said one of said casings that has said first recess therein.

[RESPONSE CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE]